2021 CERTIFICATION

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

RECEIVED
MSDH-WATER SUPPLY
2022 SEP 14 P 12:57

CITY OF INDIANOLA, MS 38751

PRINT Public Water System Name

0670006

List PWS ID #s for all Community Water Systems included in this CCR

CCR DISTRIBUTION *(Check all boxes that apply)*	
INDIRECT DELIVERY METHODS *(Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)*	**DATE ISSUED**
☒ Advertisement in local paper *(Attach copy of advertisement)*	9/8/2022
☐ On water bill *(Attach copy of bill)*	
☐ Email message *(Email the message to the address below)*	
☐ Other (Describe: _____)	
DIRECT DELIVERY METHOD *(Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)*	**DATE ISSUED**
☐ Distributed via U.S. Postal Service	
☐ Distributed via E-mail as a URL *(Provide direct URL):* _____	
☐ Distributed via Email as an attachment	
☐ Distributed via Email as text within the body of email message	
☐ Published in local newspaper (*attach copy of published CCR or proof of publication*)	
☐ Posted in public places (*attach list of locations or list here*) _____	
☐ Posted online at the following address *(Provide direct URL):* _____	

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been prepared and distributed to its customers in accordance with the appropriate distribution method(s) based on population served. Furthermore, I certify that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the water quality monitoring data for sampling performed and fulfills all CCR requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40, Part 141.151 – 155.

Name | MAYOR Title | 9/12/22 Date

SUBMISSION OPTIONS *(Select one method ONLY)*

You must email or mail a copy of the CCR, Certification, and associated proof of delivery method(s) to the MSDH, Bureau of Public Water Supply.

Mail: (U.S. Postal Service)
MSDH, Bureau of Public Water Supply
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215

Email: water.reports@msdh.ms.gov

2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Indianola - PWSID# 0670006
April 2022

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Meridian Wilcox Aquifer.

Our source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the City of Indianola have received lower to moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Kenneth Featherstone at 662.887.1825. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the City Hall Annex.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the period of January 1st to December 31, 2021. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2021, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Level 1 Assessment: A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL/MRDL	Unit Measure -ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants								
6. Radium 226 Radium 228	N	2019*	.47 3.7	.31 - .47 .66 – 3.7	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
10. Barium	N	2019*	.0212	.0153 - .0111	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2019*	1.3	.62 – 1.3	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2017/19*	.2	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

16. Fluoride **	N	2019*	.525	.484 - .525	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2017/19*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2019*	210000	180000 - 210000	ppb	0	0	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.
Disinfection By-Products								
81. HAA5	N	2021	27.2	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2021	33.2	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2021	1	.7 – 1.3	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

** Most recent sample, no sample required in 2021*

*** Fluoride level is routinely adjusted to the Ms. State Dept. of Health's recommended level of 0.6-1.2 mg/l*

Our system received a CCR report violation for not completing this report by the July 1st deadline in 2021. We also received a follow up or routine tap violation of the Lead & Copper Rule.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", our water system is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 4. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 31%.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

We at the City of Indianola work around the clock to provide quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

The Enterprise-

$1 Indianola, Thursday, September 8, 2022 Volume CXXXVI No.36

Community mourns Dr. Katie

Physician Katherine Patterson passes away at 47

By PATRICK ERVIN
Staff Reporter

It did not take long for the community in Indianola and abroad to respond to the recent passing of South Sunflower County Hospital's family practice and emergency room physician Katherine Teresa Patterson on Saturday. Known to friends, family and colleagues as "Katie," the 47-year-old was not only a trusted professional among her peers and patients, but she was also very active in civic endeavors in Sunflower County.

Former Enterprise-Tocsin publisher Bryan Davis crystallized the impact she had on the community.

"When my family first moved to Indianola, Dr. Katie Patterson was one of the first people we got to know, because she became the primary physician for our daughters, Ellie and Sarah. But Katie was more than just our pediatrician. She was our youth soccer director, a co-star in Mid-Delta Arts Association productions and the biggest advocate for the Henry M. Seymour Library, one of our girls' favorite places to visit," Davis said. "When we purchased our home from the Methodist Church in 2018, Katie was one of the committee members who did the final walk-through with us. This past spring, one of the last stories I covered as editor of The E-T was the opening of the Wellness Center, a project Katie was involved with bringing to fruition. If something positive was happening in Indianola, Katie was likely there, making sure it was done correctly. We send our condolences to David and his boys and the Patterson and Fokakis families."

Patterson's colleague, Dr. Jay W. Lee, chief medical officer of Share Ourselves Community Health Center in Orange County, California, tweeted on September 3, "We are grieving today. Our MAFP past president and current AAFCOP AAAFP Delegate Katherine T. Patterson, MD FAAP of Indianola passed away due to complications from leukemia. She had just been honored as MAFP's Family

See Dr. Katie Page 16

Katherine Teresa Patterson

Patrick Ervin

Attorney Jimmy Sherman opens bids for equipment at the Sunflower County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday.

Jail nurse went from $28K to $68

By PATRICK ERVIN
Staff Reporter

Item three on the Sunflower County Board of Supervisors' Tuesday meeting sparked an immediate full-scale discussion. Typically, approving a claims docket to begin a meeting is a formality, but District 1 Supervisor Glenn Donald wanted to discuss the Sunflower County jail's nurse contract before voting on the $791.460.13 claims docket.

According to County Comptroller Stephanie Washington, in 2015 the line item for the jail's nurse salary was $28,000. By 2021, this amount was at $68,000. "That's a tremendous increase and I think we're being taken advantage of," Donald said. "There is a big discrepancy versus what we voted to approve and what we've been paying. And we have a contract that's not being followed."

Donald was the only nay vote to approve this item because of the difference in the contract and the payout for the nurse. Per the contract, a nurse was to work five hours per day and a nurse's assistant three hours on the weekend. The nurse also falls under the supervision of a medical director. The item sparked a lengthy discussion. Sunflower County Sheriff James Haywood explained, "I think he's (nurse Joe Lee) working with people who are on psychotic medications, suffering from diabetes and anemia. And by law we can't just turn them away without getting sued because they are in our custody."

Donald retorted, "But Sheriff Haywood, we are not a hospital and when medical care gets beyond the scope of our jail, we need to look for facilities with the proper capabilities."

Donald also said that in years past the jail nurse line item always stayed within budget.

Board Attorney Johnny McWilliams supported Donald's explanation. "Glenn's right," McWilliams said. "Back in 1994 when the jail was built, we were sued by the Department of Justice because we didn't have a nurse or medical director. They put the jail

See COUNTY Page 16

US Labor officials welcome local input

By PATRICK ERVIN
Staff Reporter

Back in June U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh and a detachment of leaders from various levels of government showed up at the Mississippi Center for Justice in force for a press conference voicing their support for local Black farm workers. The Department of Labor's H-2A program, whereby local famer workers were recruited from South Africa and other nations, proved to be a misused program where imported labor received better wages and a higher standard of living than the African Americans who had worked the land for years. On Thursday, Walsh's Wage and Hour Division Deputy Administrator Patricia

same podium, "We are here to fulfill a promise made by Secretary Walsh. I think when he was here in June, he said that the Department of Labor will address the issue, 'not next year, not next month, but as soon as I get back to Washington.'"

Davidson, along with Mississippi Center for Justice staff, and state, local and regional Department of Labor officials, conducted a follow-up to Secretary Walsh's visit by allowing the public to provide suggestions and feedback about how D.O.L. could better address not only the plight of Black farmworkers but also all wage and labor concerns at a local level. Mississippi District 9, Sub-District 2 Chancery Court Judge Debra M. Giles was the first respondent from

Patrick Ervin

Ty Pinkins (center) answers questions during the Department of Labor's public input session on Thursday, September 1. He is joined by Vangela Wade, CEO of Mississippi Center for Justice (left) and Audrey Hall, director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division

2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Indianola - PWSID# 0670006
April 2022

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality waterjang services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Meridian Wilcox Aquifer.

Our source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the City of Indianola have received lower to moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Kenneth Featherstone at 662.887.1825. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the City Hall Annex.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the period of January 154 to December 31, 2021. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2021, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Level 1 Assessment: A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Picocuries per liter (PCI/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water,

TEST RESULTS

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	MCLG	MCL	[illegible]
Radioactive Contaminants								
[illegible] Radium 226 / Radium 228	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
[illegible] Barium	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppm	2	2	[illegible]
[illegible] Chromium	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppb	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Copper	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppm	1.3	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] Fluoride **	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppm	4	4	[illegible]
[illegible] Lead	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppb	0	[illegible]	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	ppb	0	0	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
Disinfection By-Products								
[illegible] HAA5	N	2021	[illegible]	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
[illegible] TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	2021	[illegible]	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2021	[illegible]	[illegible]	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* [illegible]
** Fluoride level is [illegible]

Our system received a CCR report violation for not completing this report by the July 1st deadline in 2021. We also received a follow up or routine tap violation of the Lead & Copper Rule.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period,

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

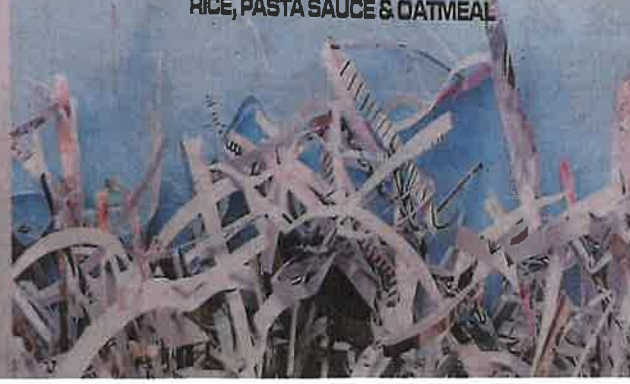
Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", our water system is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 4. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.6-1.2 ppm was 31%.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

We at the City of Indianola work around the clock to provide quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers



2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Indianola - PWSID# 0670006
April 2022

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality waterjang services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Meridian Wilcox Aquifer.

Our source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the City of Indianola have received lower to moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Kenneth Featherstone at 662.887.1825. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the City Hall Annex.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the period of January 154 to December 31, 2021. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2021, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million